UT GRUNEY DAVY PARIE

DIRECT FAX: (248) 879-2001

Pennin Purang Rapids Howell • Kalamazoo Lansing . Monroe . Troy

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CANADA: Windsor, ON POLAND: Gdynia Katowice - Warsaw

840 West Long Lake Road, Suite 200 Troy, Michigan 48098 TEL: (248) 879-2000

MILLER, CANFIELD, PADDOCK AND STONE, PLC

FAX: (248) 879-2001 www.millercanfield.com

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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

(123871.1)

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Applicant:

Li et al

10/30/03

Paper Number:

3617

U.S.S.N:

10/696,855

Art Unit:

Examiner:

Jules, F.

Filing Date:

Title: **AXLE ASSEMBLY**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

The following is in response to the Office Action mailed on April 22, 2004 in the above captioned patent application.

1. Claims 1-13 are pending in the application. Examiner Jules has presented an Election of Species requirement, arguing that a pair of species are disclosed, A in Figs. 1-3 and B in Figs. 4-5, and that none of the claims are generic to both species.

Applicant respectfully traverses this election of species, but selects species A. Applicant believes that Claim 1, for example, is generic to both embodiments, and therefore respectfully requests that the election of species requirement be withdrawn.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dr. Xiao-Ming Li et al

Robert Kelley Roth

Attorney for Applicants

Miller, Canfield, Paddock and Stone

150 W. Jefferson, Suite 2500

Detroit, MI 48226

313-496-7568

313-496-8454 (fax)

roth@millercanfield.com

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE

I hereby certify that this paper is being sent via facsimile on May 6, 2004 to the Assistant Commissioner of Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

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